

Attorney Docket No.: 15162/04170

2621 04.15.2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of: Reiko IZUME and Yoshihiro HARA
For: IMAGE RETRIEVING APPARATUS
Confirmation No.: 6899
U.S. Serial No. 09/992,164
Filed: November 6, 2001
Group Art Unit: 2621
Examiner: To Be Assigned

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Technology Center 2600

Assistant Director
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

MARCH 20, 2002

Date of Deposit

JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. Williams
Signature

MARCH 20, 2002

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following item to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the item is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The reference cited below is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the item listed below is properly citable against the above-identified application.

The following document is cited in the specification of the above-identified patent application:

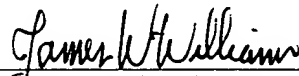
Serial No. 09/992,164

- (1) Hiroshi MURASE and V.V. VINOD, "Fast Visual Search Using Focussed Color Matching -Active Search-", collection of congress of electronic information and communication D-II Vol. J81-DII, No. 9, pages 2035-2042, September 1998 (including partial translation).

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited document.


As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,



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March 20, 2002

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Complete if Known				
				Application Number		09/992,164		
				Confirmation No.		6899		
				Filing Date		November 6, 2001		
				First Inventor		Reiko IZUME et al.		
				Group Art Unit		2621		
				Examiner Name		To Be Assigned		
Sheet 1 of 1				Attorney Docket No.		15162/04170		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite #	DOCUMENT NUMBER	C O D E	PATENTEE	ISSUE DATE (mm/dd/yy)	CLASS	SUB CLASS	Filing Date if Appropriate
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials		O F F I C E	NUMBER	C O D E	PUBLICATION DATE (mm/dd/yy)	TRANSLATION Yes No		
OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published							
	Hiroshi MURASE and V.V. VINOD, "Fast Visual Search Using Focussed Color Matching – Active Search-", collection of congress of electronic information and communication D-II Vol. J81-DII, No. 9, pages 2035-2042, September 1998 (including partial translation)							
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.